

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment of October 27, 2011 has been entered and fully considered.
2. Upon careful review of US Patent 6,050,503 (Suhring et al.) from the IDS of October 11, 2006, the indication of allowable subject matter is withdrawn with apologies from the examiner.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 11 and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Suhring et al.

Suhring et al. show a windshield washing system (the embodiment of Fig. 5c) comprising: a spray nozzle receiving element 2 of a motor vehicle; and an adjustably mountable spray nozzle 1 comprising a body 7 having a bearing axis, the body pivotally mounted to the receiving element for pivoting about the bearing axis, the body further including a bearing axis adjusting element 11 including an adjusting drive manipulator configured as a threaded spindle (column 4, lines 15-21) including a manually-rotatable handwheel (the top section of 11 in which a user grabs and rotates).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. Claims 12, 13, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suhring et al.

The mounting by snap-fit engagement would have been matters of design choice since Suhring et al. has already taught snap-fitting the nozzle holder 2 to the vehicle (column 2, lines 64-67). The snap-lock webs as recited in claim 19 would also have been a matter of design choice.

7. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Davis Hwu whose telephone number is (571)272-4904. The examiner's supervisor, Len Tran can be reached on (571)272-1184. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system.

/Davis Hwu/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3752